

Looking after yourself, your family, your neighbours, your staff, and your community, as we find and fight the Mycoplasma Bovis bacteria.

## GENERAL CONTACTS

- The MPI M. Bovis website is updated regularly: [www.mpi.govt.nz/protection-and-response/responding/alerts/mycoplasma-bovis/](http://www.mpi.govt.nz/protection-and-response/responding/alerts/mycoplasma-bovis/)
- Questions for MPI – 0800 00 83 33 or Email: MBovis2017\_Liaison@mpi.govt.nz
- Farmer Support Line – 027 444 9380 or Email: MBovis2017\_Welfare@mpi.govt.nz
- Rural Support Trust – 0800 787 254
- Exotic Pest and Disease Hotline – 0800 80 99 66
- Compensation guidelines email: compensationcoordinator@mpi.govt.nz
- Your GP or your vet.

## RURAL SUPPORT TRUSTS

RSTs have trained facilitators who can support you with some of the issues you are facing. They can refer you to experts and services that you might need, such as planning and management advice, health information, Work and Income employment and financial assistance measures.

## YOUR LOCAL CONTACTS

Sarah Barr (Waimate) 027 444 9380  
David Hewson (St Andrews) 021 720 367  
Cara Gregan (Timaru) 027 478 2259  
Or call 0800 787 254, select your area.



Rural People Helping Rural People

Rural Support Trusts are well-connected with:

- MPI
- Work & Income NZ
- Financial support
- Planning & management advice
- Mentoring
- Health providers

*“Contact us any time for a free, confidential chat.”*

**0800 787 254** [www.rural-support.org.nz](http://www.rural-support.org.nz)

## WORKING FOR FAMILIES

If your income has changed, Working for Families may be able to offer:

- childcare assistance for pre-schoolers, after-school, and holiday care;
- an accommodation supplement, for families with or without children;
- IRD Tax Credits to help with the cost of raising a family.

Check your WORKING FOR FAMILIES eligibility at [www.workingforfamilies.govt.nz](http://www.workingforfamilies.govt.nz) or talk to your accountant or Rural Support Trust.

## WORK AND INCOME - MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Different types of financial assistance can be available for people or families whose incomes have been severely affected.

Everyone's situation is different so please talk to your local Work and Income office. Your Rural Support Trust can help you with this. It's best to talk to them as soon as possible as there may be a stand-down period for financial assistance. Some options can include:

**EMERGENCY BENEFIT:** Can provide income and asset-tested financial assistance for people who are in hardship, unable to earn enough to support themselves and their family, and are not eligible for any other benefit.

**SPECIAL NEEDS GRANT:** Non-taxable, one-off payments for people to meet an immediate need. You do not have to be on a benefit to qualify. It is income and asset-tested and may or may not need to be paid back depending on your specific circumstances.

**RECOVERABLE ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS:** Non-taxable and interest-free financial assistance to non-beneficiaries to meet essential immediate needs for specific items or services. This assistance is income and asset-tested, and will need to be paid back later. You must be able to identify a particular immediate need for an essential item or service.

**JOBSEEKER SUPPORT:** A weekly payment for people looking for full-time work, or unable to work due to a health condition, injury, disability.

## ARE YOU KEEN TO HELP OUT?

If you have experience with farming, finance, cooking, childminding, gardening ... anything else ... and could spare a little bit of time, your community may really welcome your support over the coming weeks.

Call Sarah Barr on 027 444 9380,  
or the Rural Support Trust on 0800 787 254 (0800 RURAL HELP)  
if you think you could help.

